



## CITY OF LAUREL MULTISERVICE CENTER IN THE NEWS

### Laurel Multiservice Center (LMSC) ENOUGH Local Management Board Capacity Building Grant Initiative Kickoff Event

On Thursday, March 27, 2025, the LMSC hosted a kickoff event for the E.N.O.U.G.H. Capacity Building Grant Initiative, funded by the Prince George's County Local Management Board.

The Laurel Multiservice Center is proud to serve as the 'community quarterback' for this initiative. We're committed to leading through strategic direction, careful coordination, and robust capacity building, by not only collaborating with our partners and Deerfield Run Elementary School, but strong support from the Prince George's County Local Management Board.

We're deeply committed to ensuring that the voices of community members are central to this work.

We'll implement several strategies to ensure the success of ENOUGH, such as investing in trauma-informed training for our staff and partners, and developing a resource database in multiple languages, accessible online in coordination with our statewide partner, Maryland's 211.



March 27, 2025, Craig A. Moe Laurel Multiservice Center, Laurel, MD.

Photo (Above) of Secretary Paul Monteiro, Department of Service and Civic Innovation, Office of Governor Wes Moore (Maryland).



March 27, 2025, Craig A. Moe Laurel Multiservice Center, Laurel, MD.

Photo of (L-R) Christian Pulley, City Administrator; Mayor Keith R. Sydnor; Sandra Price, LMSC Program Operations Manager; Dr. Orethea Y. Mattison, Division Manager/LMB Director, Department of Family Services; Marchelle LeBlanc, Director, Department of Human Services, LMSC; Secretary Paul Monteiro, Department of Service and Civic Innovation; Council Member Adrian G. Simmons, Ward 1; Jite Amurun, Nextera Health (LMSC Partner); and Council President Kyla Clark, Ward 2.

### TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE E.N.O.U.G.H. INITIATIVE, VISIT:

Video recording of the Kick-Off event: [https://youtu.be/6JuL1ZO\\_-F0?si=1GRhEcPlos0kFH6k](https://youtu.be/6JuL1ZO_-F0?si=1GRhEcPlos0kFH6k)

Maryland Governor's Office for Children:  
<https://goc.maryland.gov/Pages/enough-initiative.aspx>

*Laurel Living*, April 2025 Issue, "Power in Partnership Enough Local Management Board (LMB) Capacity Building Grant Kickoff" at:  
<https://www.cityoflaurel.org/DocumentCenter/View/3239/April-2025-E-Newsletter?bidId=>

*The Laurel Independent*, April 8, 2025, "City launches anti-poverty effort," at:  
<https://streetcarsuburbs.news/city-launches-anti-poverty-effort/>

## IN THIS ISSUE

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## LMSC NEWS

City of Laurel Multiservice Center  
204 Fort Meade Rd  
Laurel, MD 20707

Monday - Friday 8am-7:30pm  
[info@laurelmsc.org](mailto:info@laurelmsc.org)

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The City of Laurel Multiservice Center is registered as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Contributions to the City of Laurel Multiservice Center are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law. The Multiservice Center's tax identification number is 92-1731221.

 [city-of-laurel-multiservice-center](https://www.city-of-laurel-multiservice-center.org)

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**THURSDAY, MAY 29, 2025**

### LAUREL HELPING HANDS YOUTH MENTAL WELLNESS PROGRAM

*Join us for the Laurel Helping Hands  
Youth Mental Wellness Program!*  
Beginning Thursday, May 29, 2025  
5:00 pm to 6:30 pm  
Hybrid (Online & In-Person)  
Weekly for 4 Weeks

*Feel Heard.  
Find Strength.  
Be You.*



Taking care of your mental well-being **now** can lead to greater happiness, success, and overall well-being in the future.

The Laurel Helping Hands Youth Mental Wellness Program supports **youth ages 13-17** as they focus on their mental wellness. This program offers a welcoming space to learn about:

- mental health,
- coping strategies,
- and self-care techniques.

Through interactive workshops, group discussions, and engaging activities, you will gain valuable insights and tools to navigate the challenges that life may bring. Connect with peers, share experiences, and build a supportive community. Let's work together to promote mental wellness and empower each other!

#### TO REGISTER:

Click on the link: [Eventbrite Registration](#)  
OR Scan the QR-code



#### QUESTIONS?

Contact Georgeanna Cooper via email at [gcooper@laurel.md.us](mailto:gcooper@laurel.md.us) or phone at 301-974-3010.

Craig A. Moe Laurel Multiservice Center  
204 Fort Meade Road, Laurel, MD 20707  
(301) 974-3010  
<https://helpinghands.cityoflaurel.org/>



**MONDAY, June 23, 2025, Noon to 8PM**

**Restaurant FUNdraiser to Benefit the Multiservice Center**

Join us for a delicious way to raise money for the City of Laurel Multiservice Center! On **Monday, June 23**, at BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse, Towne Centre at Laurel, 14714 Baltimore Ave, Laurel, MD 20707, the LMSC will receive 20% of all food and soft beverage purchases from **Noon until 8:00pm**. This applies to dine-in, takeout, and curbside orders.

**PLEASE NOTE: GUESTS MUST PRESENT THE FUNDRAISING EVENT FLYER WHEN ORDERING. DOWNLOAD AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE (SEE QR-CODE BELOW).**



## MEET OUR VOLUNTEERS AND PARTNERS

In each issue of *LMSC News*, we will share news and information about our Volunteers and Community Partners. In this issue, we introduce you to **Volunteer Robert Wood**. Pastor Wood, Robert, was recently recognized for his outstanding service to the Laurel Multiservice Center (LMSC), for volunteering more than 700 hours from September 2024 through March 2025. Robert is one of our Lead Volunteers and primarily serves in our Day Center in the Shower and Laundry areas.

Access to showers and laundry is crucial for the health, well-being, and dignity of individuals experiencing homelessness. Regular hygiene helps prevent the spread of diseases, promotes mental health, and restores a sense of self-worth. Clean clothing also improves job prospects and social interactions.

### **What inspired you to get involved in community service?**

God.

### **What brought you to the Laurel Multiservice Center as a volunteer?**

*I am a part of the Clergy Advisory Council of Laurel. I received an invitation to be a guest at the Grand Opening [of the Laurel Multiservice Center] from the assistant to the Mayor (Giselle). And then I received an email from Sandra [Price Programs Operations Manager], inviting me to volunteer at the Grand Opening. As you can see, I choose to Volunteer.*

### **What are your duties and what do they involve?**

*Assigning showers, laundry, maintenance, and helping when needed.*

### **What motivates you to stay involved?**

*I was diagnosed with kidney cancer in 2018. Then in 2019, I was diagnosed with throat cancer. Then, at the beginning of summer, my doctor said that they saw another spot on my kidney. So, I had to have kidney surgery on August 26, 2024. I asked God to heal me enough by September 10, so that I could still volunteer. This was a way that I could be a part of something in the beginning in our community. So, once again, God is my motivation to keep coming.*

### **In your opinion, what is the most important work that the Laurel Multiservice Center does?**

*Providing a safe place for the less fortunate. Especially the showers, laundry, and snacks.*

### **Of what contribution or achievement are you most proud?**

*The relationships that I have made here that I would not have been able to [make] if I had not listened to God about getting involved in the community.*

### **Does anyone in your life play a role in supporting your involvement? In providing inspiration?**

*My wife, kids, and church family (First Christian Church of Laurel).*

### **What other organizations or causes do you support?**

*Maryland City Neighbors.*

### **Do you have a message to share?**

*Life is short here on Earth. So, find something to do that can help others. It will give you so much joy and fulfillment. If you are having trouble discovering your purpose, ask God. He knows the purpose and plan He has for your life.*



Pastor Robert Wood, LMSC Volunteer



## MEET OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS: *FISH of Laurel*

In each issue of *LMSC News*, we will share news and information about our Community Partners. In this issue, we introduce you to Board of Trustees Member, Stephanie Hammond, Fish of Laurel, Inc. (Fish). Fish is an all-volunteer nonprofit that operates Elizabeth House, the only meal kitchen in northern Prince George's County. Fish serves food-insecure neighbors in the greater Laurel area, including Prince George's, Anne Arundel, Howard, and Montgomery counties. Fish manages the evening meal program at the LMSC, Monday through Friday, 6:00PM-7:15PM.



Stephanie Hammond  
Fish of Laurel, Inc.

### **What inspired you to get involved in community service?**

*Helping others has been a way of life for me, woven in since childhood thanks to my parents' example. In high school, I volunteered at a hospital, in college, I tutored elementary students, and later joined Delta Sigma Theta—a life-long public service organization that's kept me connected with women who share my passion for community service. Each community I've been part of has strengthened my commitment to serve, and it's become a core part of my identity.*

### **Do you have a memorable client success story?**

*So many stories come to mind, but two really resonate. One evening, two teenagers came to have dinner at our kitchen—they were hungry and didn't want to be a burden on their families. It was heartbreaking, yet I felt grateful they trusted us as a safe, welcoming resource. Another story involves a grandmother caring for six grandchildren on a tight budget. During Thanksgiving, she received one of our food bundles, which brought her to tears—she was overjoyed to be able to give her family a special meal. Seeing the positive impact we have on people's lives is incredibly fulfilling, and it's even more inspiring when former clients return as volunteers to give back.*

### **What impact has your organization made in the community, and what are our future goals?**

*For 45 years, Fish of Laurel has been a beacon of hope for our community, and this legacy continues at Elizabeth House. During the pandemic, demand for meals tripled from 40 to 120 daily. Thanks to our amazing volunteers, we never closed our doors, ultimately serving more than 30,000 meals in a single year—three times our usual count. As we look to the future, we're excited to expand our reach by providing dinner at the new MultiService Center, helping even more families find security and hope in challenging times.*

### **How do you foster a sense of teamwork among the volunteers and the staff?**

*Our volunteers are the backbone of the Elizabeth House operation! With over 300 strong, we focus on camaraderie, communication, and shared purpose to keep us united. We streamline sign-ups, offer flexible schedules, and rotate distribution lists so everyone has a chance to serve. Experienced volunteers serve as team leaders, which brings accountability, support, and helps foster a smoother experience for everyone. We're always exploring ways to make volunteering meaningful and rewarding for this incredible group of people.*

### **What personal values and experiences have shaped your approach to leadership and community service?**

*My Christian faith is at the heart of my approach, rooted in compassion and humility. Leadership, for me, is about servant leadership—prioritizing others' needs and inspiring collaboration. It's not about power but about helping volunteers bring their unique gifts to our work. I believe deeply in the dignity of every person, especially those on the margins, and strive to lead by example, championing positive change and compassion in all we do.*

### **When not serving the community what do you like to do?**

*When I'm not serving, I love traveling with my family and spending time outdoors. It's where I recharge and find inspiration.*

# HOW YOU CAN MAKE AN IMPACT

Are you looking for a meaningful way to give back to your community? The City of Laurel Multiservice Center is seeking dedicated volunteers to join our team and make a difference in the lives of our community. The LMSC offers essential services to those in need, and we need your help to continue our mission.

## Volunteer

The LMSC is seeking Volunteers to help with our Day Center Programming. Visit <https://laurelmsc.org/make-an-impact/> for information about volunteer opportunities at the LMSC.

## Donate Funds

Donated funds help us to provide: clothing, meals, move-in costs for housing, and other essential items for the clients we serve at the LMSC. If you're interested in making a financial donation to the LMSC, please email [info@laurelmsc.org](mailto:info@laurelmsc.org) for details or you may scan the QR code on this page.

## Become a Community Partner

If you are with an organization or agency that serves the Greater Laurel Area, and are interested in partnering with the LMSC, we would love to hear from you. Please email our Marchelle LeBlanc, Laurel Multiservice Center (LMSC) Director, to schedule a meeting at [mleblanc@laurelmsc.org](mailto:mleblanc@laurelmsc.org).



scan QR code to  
make a donation  
to the LMSC



## OUR MISSION

To promote stability and self-sufficiency amongst vulnerable populations through the provision of human services. Such efforts aim to promote hope for the future, equity of service, and strengthening of community throughout the Greater Laurel area.

## OUR VISION

Enhance wellness and reduce homelessness through the provision of resources and the promotion of independent living.

## CORE VALUES

The City of Laurel Multiservice Center is dedicated to fostering a community where dignity, compassion, inclusivity, integrity, collaboration, and empowerment are not just values, but guiding principles. We are committed to serving our community with respect, empathy, and a passion for making a positive impact on the lives of those we support.